

1997

The DIT Examiner: the Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union October, 1997

DIT Students's Union

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the DIT Examiner

The Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union

October '97



Racism threatens to undermine our society: the start of a new social page in the Examiner. Inform yourself. **Page 6**



The Presidential Election. What's all the fuss about? Who are these people and what do they want? **Pages 6&7**



Bigger, brighter and wilder than ever before, DIT Sports Day hit the big time. **Pages 12&13**



Win A Life Less Ordinary soundtrack courtesy of PolyGram! Also Verve, dEUS, OP8, and tickets to Darren Emerson. **Pages 16&17**

Normality returns to Rathmines House

Rumoured upheaval between students and management in DIT Rathmines House recently proved to be largely untrue. Purported news of a rift stemmed from students upset by the present state of the south city premises.

Students currently studying in DIT Rathmines House recently made various complaints and allegations in regard to certain facilities and the lack thereof in the site. Of these, the present state of the new library was to the forefront of the arguments.

Claims were made that the library contained books which were relevant only to students of music at DIT Chatham Row, and that students of both Environmental Science and Social Science were having to go to DIT Bolton Street and DIT Mountjoy Square in order to find the requisite reading material. Also, due to on-going building taking place in DIT Rathmines House, many classes had been disrupted, and study made difficult because of the noise created by the continuing work.

Margo Fitzpatrick, Administrator of the Faculty of Applied Arts, confirmed to the DIT Examiner recently that the Library in Rathmines House currently contains no music material whatsoever, and that the relevant books for Environmental Science and the Social Sciences could be found in the Rathmines House Library. She also confirmed that the building work on the library would be entirely complete by Monday 27 October.

Derek O'Shea, Deputy President of Aungier Street's Students' Union — and thus responsible for Rathmines House students — had met with Faculty of Applied Arts Director, Dr. Ellen Hazelkorn, to discuss some of these and other issues relevant to the Environmental and Social Science students, including that of canteen facilities, which for some time, had been non-existent. "Having spoken to Dr Hazelkorn and seen that the canteen is open I am fully confident that the other issues which I brought up with her will be resolved as soon as possible."

PORTLAND ROW IN SPACE ROW

Art & Design Students Stage Protest

The issue of improved facilities for the painting, printing and sculpture students of Art & Design in Portland Row — an argument which has been going on for quite some time now — reached new heights at the start of October when the students in question approached DIT Mountjoy Square Students' Union outlining their problems and demanding an emergency meeting with Applied Arts Faculty Director, Dr Ellen Hazelkorn, threatening to take action were they not received.

Following a hurriedly-arranged, yet brief, meeting with both DITSU Overall President, Sinéad Pidgeon, and DIT Mountjoy Square President, Ronan Emmett, Dr. Hazelkorn agreed to meet with the students. In an unprecedented move, Dr. Hazelkorn personally addressed a crowd of over 150 students, assuring them that she was determined to look after the problems of lighting and spare rooms.

The matter later came to a head again when the Art & Design students took to the streets in peaceful protest outside Mountjoy Square, in order to highlight



Art & Design Students marching outside DIT Mountjoy Sq earlier this month

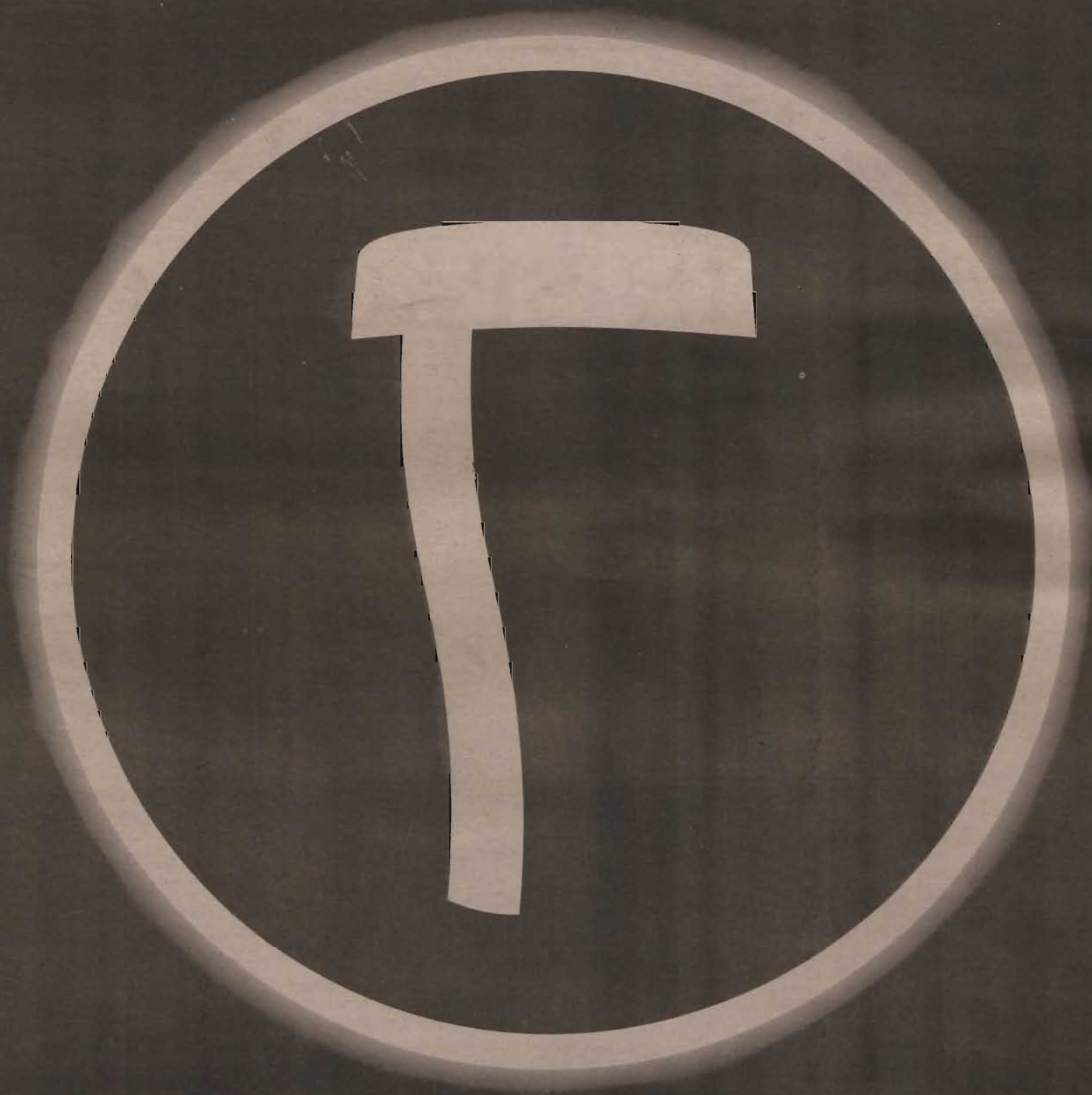
the lack of space in the Portland Row annex. The procession, of about one hundred students, marched up and down in front of the Georgian site, watched by a handful of others standing on the steps. After a short while they entered the building and continued their protest inside.

Apart from the aforementioned problems concerning space, the main difficulty the students have with the set-up in Portland Row is the non-existence of Technicians, without whose supervision the students are not insured to learn and work. The area set aside for sculpture is outdoor, badly lit, and too small, according to the students. They also claim that rooms used for storing old and obsolete machinery should be given over to students for work purposes.

DIT Students' Union is determined not to let the matter rest.



"Anyone fancy a night at the opera?" Students from the Conservatory of Music and Drama at a photo call to publicise the first performance in Ireland of Schubert's *Der Häusliche Krieg* (The Domestic War) which took place in the National Concert Hall in September. It was conducted by Franz-Paul Decker.



<http://www.guinness.ie>

the DIT Examiner

DITSU, DIT Kevin Street, Kevin St., Dublin 8. Ph: 402 4636
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VOTE NOVEMBER 30

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Clarifications

Should you encounter anything you feel is in need of clarification in this, or any other issue of the DIT Examiner, please contact the editor and any such matters shall then be clarified in the subsequent edition.

EDITOR Cearbhall Ó Síocháin EAGARTHÓIR
Vegetable Stroganov by Tony Bennett
Printed by Datascope,
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Lettuce to the Editor

Any lettuce sent to the Examiner for the attention of the Editor should be clearly marked. *Ní ghlacfar le haon leitís mharbh. Sending dead lettuce to the Editor is a strict no-no. Tig libh scríobh chuig an seoladh seo a leanas:*

The Editor,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU,
DIT Kevin St.,
Kevin St.,
Dublin 8.

An tEagarthóir,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU,
ITBÁC Sráid Chaoimhín,
Sráid Chaoimhín,
BÁC 8.

Mountjoy Stairs

Dear Mr Editor Person,

Hello, how's life? Well, poor me cuz I'm only a first year and I thought it'd be a good idea to remind all you non-first years what it feels like to be thrown at the deep end. I myself am at Mountjoy Sq, but I think I speak for all us 'freshers' when I say...Oh Mi God!!!

Why do we feel like such spanners? Well maybe its because everybody else seems dead-set on their destinations apart from us, or maybe its because everything looks suspiciously similar no matter what floor you're on.

Here in MJS there are two staircases which, I'm convinced, are there solely for confusion of the ignorant. You go up one to the second floor to e.g. Course B, then later you go up the other one to the second floor presuming you'll find Course B...Oh, No! You've landed in some place that looks about as pleasant as Gwyneth on Brad's arm or Johnny on Kate's arm — how confusing can two staircases be? Very. Ring a bell, non-freshers? Well, it should do, because running around, desperately trying to look like

- a) you know exactly where you're going
- b) you have no need for friends
- c) you're hip 'n' happening
- d) you're not worried about any of the above

aint exactly easy!!

No matter how hard we try, we still get hopelessly lost; lose new-found 'friends' just as we get to the canteen, feel like even Wurzel Gummidge would laugh at our dress sense and constantly worry how to avoid all the above. Anyway, I thought it only fair to speak out for all us headless chickens, cuz hey! We're all in this together!

Thanx ever so much y'all for your empathy.

An ignorant, baffled, insignificant first year.

Editor replies:

1. *As of this moment, you are the least ignorant, baffled or insignificant first or any other year within the confines of the glorious DIT. Why? Because you're the only one who bothered their arse to use this newspaper for its real purpose.*

2. *Having very little experience myself of the above-mentioned DIT site, I generally keep to one staircase; the one down the hall, if you turn right, just inside the main door.*

As for the clothes -- have you seen some of the fourth years' outfits lately? (Complain in writing if you dare, or if you can write, fourth years.)

3. *By the time you read this you probably will undoubtedly have figured out where things are, and have plenty of other things to worry about.*

Truflais

A chara,

conas gurb é an saghas ráiméis chéanna atá á chló agatsa i gcónaí? Nach bhfuil aon éirimiúlachta ag baint leat ar chur ar bith? Bhéinn, de ghnáth, níos sciopaidh ag gearrán, ach gur cheapas go mbeifeá sásta feabhas a chur ar an gcaighdeán scríobhnóireachta sa bhfoilseachán seo, rud nár tharla.

As seo amach, bhéinn toilteannach puc sa tsrón a thabhairt duit gach uair a d'fheicfinn tú, agus poll a chur id bhróg dá bhfaighinn an tseans. Rud eile de, ní hé amháin nach bhfuil an chaighdeán sa nuachtán seo sách ard, ach ní dhéantar freastal ar bith ar lucht intleachtúil na hInstitiúide — ní chuireann tú féin aon suim i gcúrsaí mura bhfuil siad páistiúil, seafóideach, suarach. Cá bhfuil an fionnacht le léamh? Ní agatsa sa nuachtán seo atá, agus caithfear athrú treo a lorg dá bharr.

Ag feitheamh is ag faire,
Cormac Mac Airt,
Taillte Deismhumhan.

Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and haste and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater or lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career; however humble, it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is. Many persons strive for high ideals and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love, for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars. You have a right to be here, and whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive him to be, and whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

St Paul's Church, Baltimore, 1692

A Note From the Student Services Office

Whenever you pay any DIT office by cash or cheque for Registration Fees, Tuition Fees or Examination Fees, you will be given an official receipt. You should retain this receipt carefully, as it may be required later as evidence of payment.

Dublin Inner City Primary Schools Initiative

The DIT has recently become involved with a relatively new educational body, the Dublin Inner City Primary Schools Initiative, which grew from two other, previously existing groups — the Dublin Inner City Partnership and the Primary School Initiative.

The DICP was set up in 1991 to combat long-term unemployment. Initially the partnership did not concern itself with primary education but grew to see that many of the problems of deprivation begin to create disadvantage from the earliest contact with state bodies.

It was because of this that the Primary School Initiative was formed in 1996. Following lengthy discussions with the Department of Education, a teacher was finally chosen to co-ordinate the efforts of the project.

At the moment, eight primary schools are involved; St. Gabriel's National School, Cowper St, D7; Francis St. CBS, D8; Scoil Chaitríona CBS, Baggot St, D2; St. Laurence O'Toole's CBS, Seville Place, D1; St. Patrick's BNS, Ringsend, D4; City Quay National School, D2; Central Model Jnr National School, Marlboro St., D1; Central Model Snr School, Marlboro St., D1.

The DIT involvement comes in the form of the provision of at least four computers to each school, the training of teachers and student technical support, and also the establishment of a Resource Centre. With other sponsors and patrons such as The Irish Times, Ark Children's Centre, Royal College of Surgeons and the Pigeon House Science Centre it should turn out to be quite a successful venture. If interested contact The Editor, DIT Examiner, Students' Union, DIT Kevin St. @ 402 4636 for more information.

Consumer rights -- where do I stand?

*The Buyers' Guide
introduced by Christopher Walken*

Chris: "You just bought some stuff in a store, but it don't do what its s'posed to — its, like, broke, right? So whatta you gonna do?"

By buying something, you have entered into a contract with the RETAILER, ie the person in the shop to whom you gave your cash. It is NOT the MANUFACTURER'S problem — the RETAILER must vouch for all he sells, or refuse to stock it. In doing so he is automatically guaranteeing the product's quality. The RETAILER may later take it up with the MANUFACTURER if necessary, but that does not concern you.

Chris: "Whatta you gonna do about that lousy product? Its stinkin' up your whole place, its like maybe five, six times worse than its s'posed ta be? You gonna let that slimeball back theah in the store walk all

ovah you?"

Bring the impure goods back to the shop immediately, along with the RECEIPT, or you risk losing your right to a refund. If you are physically unable to get to the shop, phone or write to the manager explaining the situation. He is then obliged to collect the faulty goods or to refund you the money for posting them to him. Depending on the length of time the product has been in your possession since you bought it, you are entitled to a refund, a replacement or at least to have the fault repaired. This goes for anything bought during a Sale too. (Products or items sold as seconds, shop-soiled or damaged goods are a different matter. In this case you should check the product before leaving the shop.)

Chris: "Then outta no-where, outta the blue, this creepy store's gotta 'No Refund' policy? Now what the hell is that?"

If your complaint is genuine, then such

signs have no bearing whatsoever. They have no effect on your statutory (legal) rights at all. If you do not get a satisfactory response from the shop, you should voice this in written form to the manager or owner in question. Should this again prove unsuccessful you may take further steps. You could get in touch with your/a solicitor, or you could take the matter up through the Small Claims Procedure. It only costs £5, but deals with claims for up to £600, and you don't need a solicitor. For more information on this go to the Small Claims Registrar in your local district court.

Chris: "Eventually, okay, the goofy kid in the store who tried to kick you back onto the highway, he gotta cough up — he ain't too happy about that, but you tellim I sent you. You do that, an' we aint got any more problems you an' me."

Next week: riding the public omnibus with Al Pacino, ooh-ahh!

Childcare Campaign Pack launched by USI

The national student body Union of Students' in Ireland recently unveiled their Childcare Campaign Pack, designed to help student parents seek proper care for their offspring while attending college at the same time. It is intended to be non-exclusive, and to this end is also directed at non-parents and staff; the argument being — and rightly so — that the issue is wider than a parental one.

This much-needed attack on complacent third-level institutions in their provision of childcare facilities, it is hoped, will draw attention to and improve matters relating to childcare in constituent educational establishments nationwide. Though the national press felt they had juicier news to cover on the day, the event was hailed as a success by USI Women's Rights Officer, Nuala Toman. The launch was attended by such notaries as Margaret Dromey, Administrator of TREOIR, Nora Gibbons of Barnardos, Fine Gael TD and Spokesman on Children, Dan Neville, and Derek McDowell TD, Labour Spokesman on Children and Health.

The lack of response from the printed press was, perhaps, balanced by various radio interviews conducted by Ms Toman, and she expressed her satisfaction at the attention received to date. She is confident that the coming weeks and months will see the campaign gather momentum, and hoped that it would garner strong support from the USI-affiliate colleges and universities throughout the country.

The fly-leaf of the Campaign Pack explains that the work was a production of the USI Women's Campaign, with assistance from various others, though sources close to USI would suggest that Ms Toman carried more than her fair share of the project to completion herself, without much of the necessary assistance. Though it may raise questions as to loyalties (ostensibly a USI Women's Campaign) in the future, this did not take away from the finished product and full credit is due to Ms Toman for her efforts.

Welcome Back

from Finbarr A. Neylon, Chaplaincy, DIT Kevin Street.

A special word of welcome to all our first year and new students. We are genuinely glad you have chosen to come to the DIT to continue your studies. We try, insofar as is possible, to make your entry into the Institute and your first weeks here especially warm and supportive to help you ease into the place.

Like other places of education and learning DIT is constantly changing, improving and developing to meet the needs of the modern world and to offer an even better service to its students and staff.

For the rest of us, it is good to be back, and what a Summer! By all accounts everybody made lots of money but spent it just as fast. Those foreigners know how to pay but they equally know how to get it back again. It seems everybody had a wonderful break.

There were great experiences, people made many friends, travelled miles and visited places our grandparents only dreamed of years ago.

By now, the evenings are noticeably shorter and the trail of evening and part-time students reminds us that there are those in the world who try to combine work and study into a very busy schedule. We wish them well and hope they participate in the evening activities that are organised in the Colleges for the greater student body. they might

find time to enjoy some of the social life which is an integral part of DIT student life.

Spare a thought too for those who were not successful with the re-sits. Many of them are making plans to further their own careers with this imposed extra year which many of them can do without. Some are repeating the year in college, while others apply for the exams in the New Year as extern students.

If you know these people, drop them a line if they have gone abroad, or ring them, for many of them feel very left out of College activities. Some of them did work very hard but either they presented the material poorly or they took chances with parts of the course and on the day luck was not on their side.

You might like to spend time with the First Years and introduce them to some of the clubs and societies in which you are involved. They may need to know something about the course they have chosen. Also your second-hand textbooks could be passed on if you are finished with them. Make sure they know about all aspects of student life, some of them may be even too shy to ask, in case they appear to be foolish.

It is an indictment against all of us if any of our new students admit that they are lonely especially in the first term. We too came from humble beginnings so

let us not forget our roots.

Remember the promises you made after Easter about not leaving everything to the last few weeks, the pages of lecture notes, the unfinished assignments and lab reports that took hours to organise when you were preparing for the summer exams; well now is the time to realise that promise.

Try to keep up to speed with some method or order that suits you. Don't get too bogged down on detail but don't put things on the long finger either.

DIT is a big place. There are six major sites across the city and you are welcome in each of them. Each College specialises in different areas of study and research and so attracts students who are interested in careers other than you own. Student services are just as generous and welcoming across the board and are well worth a visit.

If you have a bit of spare time, drift across the river and over a cup of coffee you never know who you might meet!

Go gcúmhdaigh Dia sibh,
Finbarr A. Neylon.

USI try to keep pace with DITSU

In true slacker fashion, USI, the Union of Students in Ireland, and rivals within the city limits to the DITSU crown, have gone public with their intentions to ape the inner city Institute's searching and successful Student Attitude Survey, conducted by DITSU in April '97.

USI recently announced that they would be launching a comprehensive survey to be distributed to their constituent colleges during the coming weeks. In true USI style, President, Colman Byrne and his professional team of sabbatical officers have come up with a brilliant idea — six months after DITSU first thought of it.

More important, however, is the fact that such a necessary survey will be conducted for the first time ever on a national scale. There are far too many questions still to be answered about many aspects of students' lives which can tell us a great deal about our future society.

Fear of a Black City

by Brendan Walsh

Racism is a disease. It contaminates all it touches, victim and perpetrator. Due to our history we have not had to face up to it until very recently. But now, as refugees enter the State in increasing numbers, we are standing at a cross-roads. One group would have us take the right path into intolerance and exclusion. The other path leads to a multicultural, open society where all

39 applications for refugee status in 1992 bear no comparison to the 1,500 applications which were received in the first six months of this year alone. Even this is a minuscule per centage of the estimated 20-30 million refugees worldwide.

As the anti-refugee bias began to grow in June, Nora Owen, then

tions. Ireland's location at the periphery of Europe will mean that refugees will have difficulty reaching here.

The degrading and callous treatment of refugees by the State, most recently evidenced by forcing 2,000 refugees to queue for hours in driving rain outside the Department of Justice on Stephen's Green to renew their identity cards, was dismissed by one official who helpfully asserted that the Department had no control over the elements.

Part of the blame for this has to be attributed to the lack of resources which have been brought to bear on the problem. Officials in the Irish Refugee Council are drowning in their increased work-load and the Department of Justice are not faring much better.

The track record of the previous government was pitiful, though they seem to have handed on the baton of indifference to the current incumbents. Government strategy so far seems to involve implementing draconian short-term 'solutions' and much rhetoric.

some areas. In one case a Zairean man was stabbed in the head by thugs screaming racist abuse. Besides the Incitement to Hatred Act, Ireland has no legislation to deal with racist attacks. The stabbing, if it were reported, would be treated as an assault and not an inherently racist attack.

It is not all bad news however. Some people are making the effort to reach out to the fledgling communities. Events such as the recent Soccer Against Racism in Ireland and the Rage Against Racism Carnival have helped to offset the negative aspects of the refugee situation here. Groups such as Educate Together have set up multicultural primary schools all over the country in recognition of the fact that Ireland is not an entirely homogenous community any more.

The latest development has seen the Departments of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and Education teaming up to launch an education pack which aims to educate schools and youth organisations about the harmful effects of racism.



Stirring ill-will: pre-war Nazi propaganda appearing in Dublin

racism are treated equally.

Our politicians have let us down. From their failure to enact the necessary legislation to adequately deal with the influx of refugees to the naked racism displayed by a small number of right wing politicians during the last general election campaign, it has become obvious that protecting the rights of asylum seekers is a bit of a political hand grenade.

The way that our laws on refugees have evolved, or failed to, tell us a lot about our attitudes to them. Our Aliens legislation, now hopelessly obsolete, was drawn up before the outbreak of the Second World War and it is widely known that its purpose was to keep Nazi spies out of the country.

It was not until 1985 that Ireland began to address the trickle of refugees which were coming to this country to escape persecution in their own. Decisions on granting asylum to refugees from this year on were based on a single letter written by a Department of Justice official.

The letter proposed that refugees would be allowed to reside in the State until a decision is reached on whether they will be granted asylum or not. This process can take up to three years, and refugees are not allowed to work in the State pending the outcome of their application.

Between the years of 1956 and 1992 the Irish government, mainly at the request of the United Nations, gave refuge to less than 1,500 refugees. The

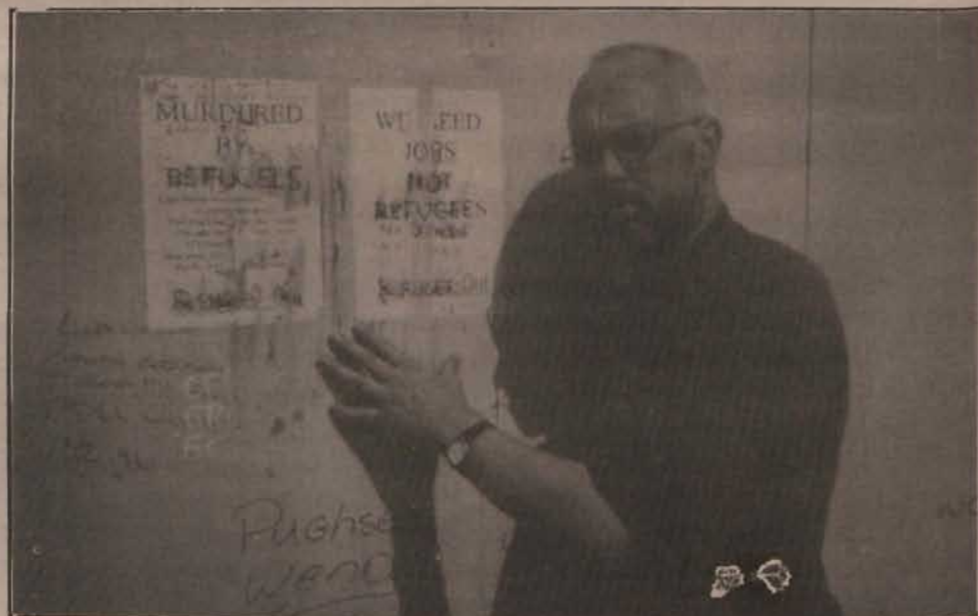
Minister for Justice, brought in new legislation which applies to refugees arriving from the UK and Northern Ireland.

What is important about this legislation is that, contrary to the UN Convention on Refugees and the Refugee Act, people arriving from the UK can be turned back at the border in the case of the former or after they have arrived in Ireland in the case of the latter.

This breaches the key principle of refoulement, meaning that a refugee will not be expelled to any state where their life or freedom would be threatened. As Europe moves toward greater unity it seems incongruous that people arriving in the state from Great Britain will be treated differently from those arriving from the Continent.

Refugees are an easy target. They are different, easy to pick out from a crowd. They have few rights pending the processing of their requests for asylum and they do not enjoy the right to vote. Anecdotal evidence suggests that immigration officials are consistently targeting people who are ethnically different as they arrive in the State. This has been causing hardship for citizens of the State who may not look 'Irish'.

Now that the Dublin Convention has been ratified, it seems likely that the number of refugees coming to this country will decrease. The Convention harmonises asylum procedures throughout the EU and will mean that a refugees application for asylum will be examined by the state to which they first come, preventing them from applying for asylum in other European jurisdic-



Ken McCue, Cultural Officer with the Dublin Inner City Partnership, points out some examples of racist billing in areas of the inner city.

This has been compounded by the media's often one-sided reports. Refugees are mercilessly scapegoated, particularly in poorer areas. In areas such as Smithfield in the North Inner City, there is a real feeling of (misplaced) resentment against refugees. With the IRC offices on Arran Quay and the presence of many refugees in the area, they have become very visible on the streets.

Racist graffiti and, most recently, posters have gone up in the area. Although people working with refugees claim that actual racist attacks are hugely under-reported, some disturbing accounts have been bubbling to the surface.

People in the Anti Nazi League describe incidents such as the firebombing of a Muslim mosque and organised attempts to force refugee families out of

Anybody wishing for more information on the European Year Against Racism can contact the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Dun Aimbirgin, 43-49 Mespil Road, Dublin 4. Telephone 660 5233.

Brendan Walsh is a freelance journalist currently writing for the Big Issues. He was Public Relations Officer for the recent Soccer Against Racism in Ireland.

Glen of the Downs -- Paving Paradise to put up a Motorway

Wicklow County Council are planning to build a shiny modern motorway through a wooded part of Glen of the Downs, just beyond Kilmacanogue, not far from Bray.

They intend to cleave off over 100 feet of hillside to facilitate this construction, ultimately to make this section of Wicklow easily and quickly accessible for commuters-to-be. It is claimed that developers and the County Council want to build hundreds of houses in the Greystones and Delgany area, and the road, they believe, is a necessary evil.

The down side of progress such as this of course, is the damage it does to the environment it ploughs up. All kinds of wildlife, both plant and animal, will be disturbed either directly or indirectly, as will our ability to enjoy one of the country's

most beautiful landscapes.

Bulldozers are set to arrive in late November or early December to flatten the place, but some of the local residents have other ideas. Along with friends and support from many others, some of them have established a camp from where they can protest peacefully, sitting out the time in huts and nests in the trees surrounding the area.

If you feel this is a worthy pursuit, or if wildlife and green countryside matters a damn anymore, why not contact them, visit them, or show support in any way you see fit. They can never get too much.

Ph: Oona @ 287 1892

WorldSoc is Watching You

"The Essence of man is Freedom"

Well, I always thought it was Brut, but not so say the World Society, so there you go. "Think for Yourself" urged the blurb from the WorldSoc, perhaps the grandest of noble clubs and societies which set up stands in DIT Bolton St during Freshers' Week. The WorldSoc encourages risk taking on a daily basis, plugs acting on beliefs and instils the need for a reawakening of the self.

Its head honcho and guru is an afro-headed chap goes by the name of Duncan, and though I hardly spoke to him, he seems like a decent soul. Provided he doesn't become the next L. Ron Hubbard (a proven lucrative pursuit), visiting his version of the great cosmic reality upon us, then WorldSoc could catch on. Challenging the mundane to a fight behind the bikesheds, the WorldSoc will attempt to unite free-thinking individuals, with the purpose of breaking the barriers of conformity as its main aim, and if they don't lose sight of this, they might just pull it off successfully. Two words of warning when taking risks, though; Tiananmen, and Square.

RISKS

To laugh is — to risk appearing the fool

To weep is — to risk appearing sentimental

To reach out for another is — to risk involvement

To expose feelings is — to risk appearing true to yourself

To place your ideas and dreams before the crowd is — to risk their loss

To love is — to risk dying

To hope is — to risk despair

To try is — to risk failure

But risks must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing and is nothing. He may avoid suffering and sorrow but he simply cannot learn, feel, change, grow, love — live. Chained by his servitude he is a slave, he has forfeited freedom. Only the person who risks is FREE.

Design the new Template and Layout for *the DIT Examiner*

How would you like to be on the receiving end of a check for a nice, cool ton, or consolation prize of 50 bills?

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SEND IN YOUR CAREFULLY DRAWN UP PROPOSAL FOR A NEW DESIGN & LAYOUT FOR YOUR STUDENTS' UNION NEWSPAPER. SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN ON APPLEMAC-COMPATIBLE DISC. THE NEWSPAPER IS CURRENTLY LAID OUT ON QUARK EXPRESS

1ST PRIZE: £100

RUNNER UP: £50

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS FRI 28 NOVEMBER 1997. WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DECEMBER 97 ISSUE.

Wanna get ahead in advertising?
Can you sell, sell, Sell?

Like to earn a hefty commission?

If you think you could secure monthly advertising for *the DIT Examiner* why not contact the Editor @ 402 4636.

Previous experience not necessary.

well? what's the delay? hop to it.

DITSU Council curbs diversification of members

The first DITSU council passed off fairly uneventfully this month, the first session of the year concerning itself mainly with training of Class Representatives and Clubs & Societies information.

The most contentious issue to raise its head was one of wider, though less immediately relevant, importance, namely, that of Union of Students in Ireland Dublin Area Women's Rights Officer. Siobhán Weekes, Site President in DIT Aungier St, sole contender for the USI position, was defeated in her attempts to gain approval for the job, though it is suggested that it is because of the crux of this particular case that she was turned down.

The election brought to the fore again an argument

which, in light of the transient nature of student politicians, may never see conclusion. It centres around the question as to whether students need an Equality Officer or whether it is more important at the moment to look for a (probably female) Women's Rights Officer.

Ms Weekes took her argument to DITSU Council in order to win backing, and was again defeated when a vote was called for, on the pretext that, as current Aungier St. President, she has enough work to do as it is.

Though Siobhán Weekes has had her attempts scuppered by DITSU Council, it is clear that this issue will continue at USI level, to cause hassle and tribulations for others in the future.

New(s)Stands for DIT Examiner

The DIT Examiner can now be seen lying around luxuriously on shiny big newspaper stands courtesy of D'Olier St daily, The Irish Times.

In a lightning raid on all constituent DIT sites throughout the city earlier this month, ChaOS spun around in a plush van with Irish Times courier, Declan, to deliver the cutting edge basket stands to Students' Union offices, Common Rooms and foyers, as students and staff alike stood aghast at the arrival of the New Display Order.

When the dust had settled, and the braver of the on-lookers strode forward to examine the newfangled contraptions it was revealed that they are actually quite impressive. If you are interested in the hot-off-the-press look be sure to check out local sites for the flash new stands.

Incidentally, if you're reading this, it is highly probable that you will have seen one of these stands already and, indeed, probably won't bother to read this informative piece.



Environmental Scientists take two out of three

DIT / TSB Young Techno-Science Scholar of the Year

Two Environmental Health students and an Electrical / Electronic Engineering student were the recipients recently of prizes in the young scientist event run by the DIT in conjunction with Trustee Savings Bank.

Mayo student, Hubert McHugh, currently studying Environmental Science at DIT Cathal Brugha St., took first place in the prestigious competition, a position that gained him a trip to the London International Youth Science Forum, an event attended by over 500 students from 60 countries.



L-r: John McDonald, Manager, TSB Henry St., Mary Buckley, John Owens, Hubert McHugh, and DIT President, Dr. Brendan Goldsmith at the awarding ceremony.

The annual event is held to immerse students in a 2-week long forum involving special lectures from established and recognised scientists, visits to research establishments and connecting with other young 'para-scientists' with common interests. The Irish interest and attachment to the Forum is the charge of the Royal Dublin Society.

Mary Buckley, a native of Westmeath, and also studying Environmental Science at Cathal Brugha St collected £300 for her endeavours, courtesy of TSB.

DIT Kevin St. Electrical Engineering student, John Owens of Tullamore, Co. Offaly, took third place, and the tidy sum of £100 in a brand spanking new TSB Bank account to boot.

Could it be that the future for Environmental Science -- a relatively new discipline -- is about to blossom? If this is the case, Cathal Brugha St and the DIT are in the right place at the right time.

All Kinds of Nothing

THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Bob Coghlan suggests that the Presidential 'Race' is devoid of personalities, presidentialities and plenty more besides these.

Earlier this year the honourable saviour of Mná na hÉireann, the keeper of the Park and Uachtarán, Mary Robinson, announced that she was escaping from the shackles of a 7-year



Mary Robinson

imprisonment in Chateau Phoenix. Having entered office as a relative unknown, she left with the hope that her hide-away in Áras an Uachtarán has preserved her anonymity. Just in case she gained undue attention from the local paparazzi, she stowed away on a charter flight to Geneva and was last seen cavorting with members of a cult known only as the United Nations and its esoteric leader Kofi Annan.

With contrary Mary out of the way, the position of government puppet, eh, President, lies vacant. This will be filled in the not-too-distant future by one of a group of gullible hopefuls with nothing better to do than seek the Lark in the Park. Candidates must satisfy the following criteria:

- 1 Have no experience of Irish politics;
- 2 Be unknown except to close family members (although even this is debatable)
- 3 Run a campaign which can be easily ridiculed by the media
- 4 Have no suitable qualifications for the job
- 5 Have absolutely no chance of winning. Although bribery is an option, it tends to be frowned upon by those of high moral disposition (such as librarians). [My mother's a librarian, Bob — Ed.]

There are five declared candidates for the Presidency. Under close scrutiny, they are an interesting mixture of odds and ends.

A. Mary Banotti

Oft found wandering the corridors in Europe, this Fine Gael woman would find it difficult to woo even the most radical of blueshirt supporters. An MEP of many years, she would live up to her title if elected — Mad Eccentric President. Unknown in Dublin, where she is well known, the average farmer would find her as appealing as a case of BSE in his herd.



Mary Banotti

B Adi Roche

This feisty Cork woman will win by a landslide...if she runs for election in Belarus. The Godmother of the Chernobyl Children's Project, voted Small Radioactive Soviet Republic Person of the Year, she has plenty of experience working with problem children (which is beneficial for coping with Dáil deputies). Her electoral base is restricted to her family in Leaside. However, she may gain extra votes across the country by agreeing to withdraw future Cork hurling teams from the All-Ireland Championship.



Adi Roche

C Mary McAleese

A member of Queen's University academic staff, Mary Mac is seeking to further cross-border relations by getting elected. Selected by Fianna



Mary McAleese

Fáil as their dream candidate, her chances are just that — a dream. She is the person most likely to be voted as Top Northern Candidate in the election.

D Dana (Rosemary Scallon)

Young girl best known for bringing the curse of the Eurovision Song Contest down upon the unsuspecting



Dana (Rosemary Scallon)

Irish population. She relies on the blessing of God for her campaign, thus the phrase uttered by her supporters — "God help her!". She claims that she will garner support from all people with real Catholic values and who respect the Church's views. That should get her about 20 votes.

E Derek Nally

Due to a late clerical error, a man was inadvertently admitted to the race.

Hailed as the saviour of Fir na hÉireann, this former Gardai will have his old colleagues arrest anyone who doesn't vote for him. He has a chance of being elected because, being the only candidate not having to waste time with make-up, he will have more time to give to important aspects of the job such as playing golf with visiting dignitaries.



Derek Nally

For those of you who exclaim "Is that it!?", the answer is, unfortunately, yes. Mind you, does anyone care? The option of voting for Dustin the Turkey or Barney the Dinosaur still exists. They say that if you don't vote you don't have a voice. In that case — long live the silent masses!!

Serious
Footnote:
Voting
for the
Presidential
Election
takes
place on
30
October
1997.

Make
Your
Choice
Count

Freshers' Week Aungier Street by Thomas Felle

A tradition that travels back to the dawn of time is the Fresher experience and Aungier

Street's week certainly went down in the history books this year.

It was officially launched on Monday, October 6 at lunch time, with some free Carlsberg Ice and Coca Cola, which didn't last long; it is a well known fact that students in DIT

colleges have developed the ability to keep their oesophagus open as they swallow beer. Some have not, however, managed to master the art of closing it again after they have finished making a pig of themselves, as all in the SU found out, forcing us to dodge flying vomit in the three-legged pub crawl. Well not all of us students have that problem, however.

The eventual winners managed to swallow an awful lot of beer in five different pubs in 17 minutes flat. Anyone who wasn't

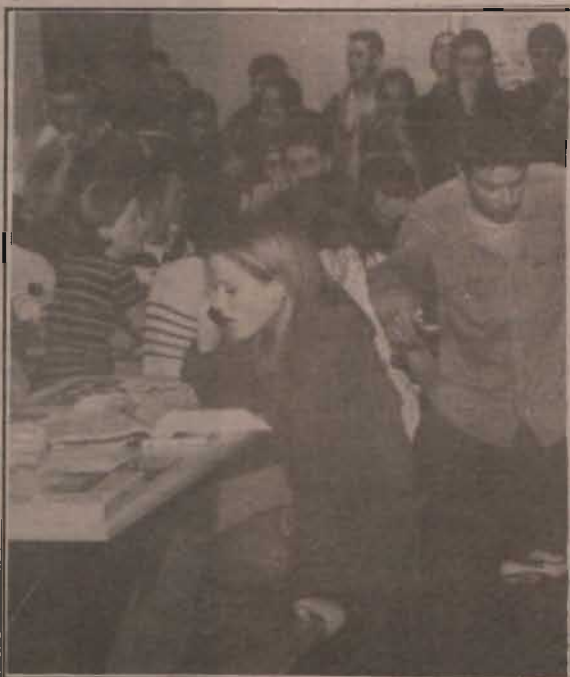
arrested by the Gardai en route eventually made it to Club USI for an enjoy-

able evening of fun and frolicks, including a table quiz, sumo wrestling and Kwizoke. The evening culminated in the Furnace for a Traffic Light Ball, which every-



Aungier St Pub Crawl Winners

body definitely enjoyed. There were, however, a few who couldn't make up their minds as to which colour they wanted, which added to the confusion of one young whipscallion journalist. Tuesday started a little later than envisaged, with Clubs and Socs Day which was visited by none other than the former



Three thousand pizzas please...Kevin St

Transport to the Legion of Mary (not with any great degree of success

however). DJ Mick Glynn in the canteen at lunch-time provided the entertainment with the help of some very brave students who took part in the iron stomach and blind date competitions. Barney Murphy & Co provided the evening's entertainment with a Hudson Blue promotion at 5p.m. The die-hards in the college went straight from Barney's after four hours of cheepo beer to the Garda Club for Zak Powers, hypnotist extraordinaire.

The colour of money look-alikes took to the cues on Wednesday, lunch time when the pool competition was held in the common room. Brian Cox stormed home the eventual winner after a very interesting competition. Gleeson's was most definitely the place to be on Wednesday night when Joe Dolan and Neil Diamond made a huge comeback. All the Guinness products which were on promotion had absolutely nothing to do with it. Honestly. Of course, the, by now, infa-



"He's not gonna EAT that.?!". Look of Fear on the faces of many at Aungier St's iron tum bash

mous D'Aungier Zone was a-wash with free yo-yo's and Soft and Gentle roll-on deodorant.

The Court night club was the usual badly-remembered drunken- stupoured great night that it always is.

Thursday was a free morning and was warmly welcomed by all who were out the night before. The treasure hunt at lunch time brought out the usual suspects, who also went ice skating in Dolphin's Barn. Next year we really should issue a government health warning against ice skating. Everybody who was anybody packed in to Gleeson's like sardines in a can on Thursday night for the Guinness Party

Below: 'skating away on the thin ice of a new day...' (and if you know that one you're good)





Eventual Iron Stomach winner in Aungier St, here on the far left. Cream crackers to wash down that milk and OJ...mmm..

Animals promotion, and, no doubt, our beloved leader, Siobhán Weekes, who was twenty one again on Thursday, enjoyed herself as well as everyone else who was there.

The Furnace was jammers, "the place was buzzin', man" was how one young student described the experience. There were rumours that some right wing faction

to the ground to ensure it could never again be used as an event for various balls. They failed in their attempt. However, it has been confirmed that the Furnace is now on the blacklist for events in the future.

No doubt, many have made up stories of dogs eating the rent money and orphaned sisters needing operations to keep away the heavies from evicting them. But it was worth it.

Freshers' Week Bolton Street

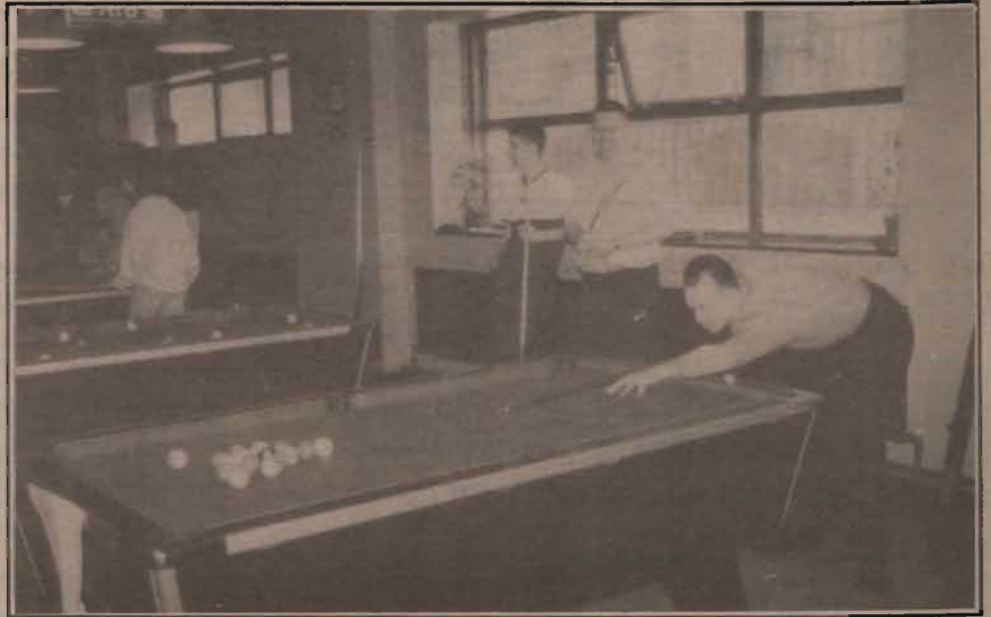
Snooker star Fergal O'Brien graced DIT Bolton St with his presence during Freshers' Week to pot lyrical and put on a great show against the hardest of

student challengers. Fergal was invited to play a couple of tournament games by the Students' Union to officially open the AIB Year Pool League. Playing in the style of the Chess Grandmasters, Fergal took on four opponents simulta-

neously, and, eh, showed

them a thing or two

looking the atrium. From



Fergal O'Brien shows a chuckling Ross O'Daly how to break and pot the entire table in one go.

about tracking. A very successful piece of marketing was instigated by the SU for this staged event, that of Pool TV. For those unable to view the snookeric proceedings from the comfort of the Common Room, where the tables are, a live satellite link-up relayed the games outside to the bleacher-steps, where boards of pool and snooker enthusiasts sat glued to the screen.

As part of a very full week in the largest and most student friendly of the northside DIT sites, the Clubs & Societies were out in force, draped over every balcony and railing over-



Two pints of lager and a packet of clothes please.

Karters to Photographers, the GAA to the Army, even the most oblique gangs made a show on the day. Main prize to the Sailing Club for unfurling their main sail to a height of three floors.



Eager onlookers keep tabs on Fergal O'Brien thru the glory of Pool TV, Bolton St. Rioting broke out when someone changed over to Live at 3.



Prozac perform their new single 'Take me Higher' for the highly delinquent masses in Bolton St.'s atrium.

Diesel Power
Kevin St reverberated wiv da riddims and soared wiv da soul during a hypnotic Freshers' week which also saw a visit from the Queen of Rock herself, Tina Turner



would attempt to burn it

DIT SPORTS DAY - ALSAA

*DIT Freshers' Sports Day
ALSAA*

*My word! What a turn out!
No-one foresaw the hoards
that accumulated out by the*

*present by Tony Choi and
Sarah McGovern).*

*Upon entering the ALSAA
complex, visitors were aston-
ished to see a monolithic
medieval castle, threatening
almost to block out the sun.*



The Cross Country Race gets under way.

*airport this month to cele-
brate the vast array of sport-
ing talents spread through-
out the DIT student body.
And what a body had our
MC for the day, Ross
O'Daly, who hollered from
the balcony til his throat fell
off. All walks of the learning
life were there, including
students from every single
DIT site. First prize goes to
Cathal Brugha St — man-
aged admirably in President
Bob Coghlan's absence by
Deputy, Nicola Doyle — for
their record turnout; greater
even than the mighty Bolton
St, (for which Ross O'Daly
resides as El Presidente this
year), or the noble Sráid
Chaoimhín (governed at*

*Great was their joy when it
was explained to them that
'Its okay! Its only made of
rubber, and filled with air!'
Millions of them then pro-
ceeded to jump all over the
wretched thing for the
greater part of the day, at
intervals causing it to list
dangerously to port, until
Ross hailed them from the
ramparts, calling to the rev-
ellers to quit it.
Further on from the rubber
battlements was the rugby
sevens which, despite being
interrupted at consistent
three minute gaps by land-
ing aircraft (in the airport,
not on the pitch), went very
smoothly all day, and had
finished before the dreaded*



Aerobics get the arms waving and the line dancing.

rain finally fell.

events due to its popularity,



"Oh my God...! I've sliced his face off! He's gonna kill me!!"

The soccer blitz held the attention of most, as it was and certain players of the soccer games were drenched



A rugby team. They play rugby.

*played out on the pitch as the evening wore on and
inside the running track. the heavens opened, though*



And when the music stops you have to stand perfectly still....

*The blitz continued well they were happy to put this
beyond any of the other down to experience, and*

they'd had a good day anyway by that time. All the DIT's hockey men and women played mixed games on the lower hockey pitches, where real pros mingled with real amateurs to make for exciting contests. Pitch and Putt was going on over on the far side of the soccer pitches until the demand sort of petered out towards four in the afternoon, and the Men & Women's cross-country race was run between 2pm and 3. This saw a hardy bunch of lads and lasses take off through the grass, completely oblivious to the muck and mulch of the north-county terrain. They all came back, too, which was kind of unusual, but whatta you gonna do? You can't please everyone. Archery Demonstrations were given, with some free instruction thrown in for good measure, though at one point, William Tell entered the fray to make a point on protocol.



The majestic structure that is the ALSAA sports complex outside town.

People from the eighteenth century don't normally get a good look in on modern, twentieth century playing rules and regulations, and this was no exception. He soon got lost anyway. Inside, the sports being played were decidedly more indoor in nature, and had onlookers enthralled for hours on end.



The majestic structure that was -- THE BOUNCY CASTLE!!

Basketball, volleyball and badminton were the majority sports here, though the minorities were represented too. Fencing and Karate exhibitionists wooed audiences up and down the hall with their displays of acrobatica and physical prowess. They wore flashy gear as well, which always helps. Jest-jousting was taking place down at the AIB stand end of the hall, as was spoof-boxing — you know, opponents wear big gloves and knock the shit out of each other in a padded



Two girls have it out with a pair of large Q-Tips -- unused, of course.

ring (sounds like the real thing, actually) — and between times members of the AIB team and DITSU executive pranced like nonces around the fake rubber boxing ring without feeling as ridiculous as they looked. The only casualties — apart from the myriad psychological ones — of the day was an unfortunate student from Cathal



"All of us against you, okay?"

Brugha St, who was stretchered off the soccer pitch with a suspected broken collar bone. Get well soon, mystery soccer player. With all DIT Sports Officers delighted with the turn-out —



though they could possibly have been given more assistance than they received — it seems a foregone conclusion that the Overall Sports Day in early '98 will be a higher profile, tighter controlled and shinier event than ever.

LÁ SPÓIRT ITBÁC - ALSAA

Put the Boot Down

GLEESON CUP FIXTURES for 1997 / 1998

Irish Colleges Rugby Union

Group B

Round 1 22 Oct 1997
Athlone RTC v DIT

Round 2 26 Nov 1997
DIT v WIT

Round 3 3 Dec 1997
DIT v UUC

Round 4 4 Feb 1998
UUJ v DIT

Round 5 11 Feb 1998
DIT v DCU

Round 1 Wednesday 29 October 97
Aungier St versus Cathal Brugha St
Bolton St v Mountjoy Sq
Free: Kevin St

Round 2 Wednesday 5 November 97
Kevin St v Aungier St
Cathal Brugha St v Bolton St
Free: Mountjoy Sq

Round 3 Wednesday 12 November 97
Aungier St v Bolton St
Mountjoy Sq v Kevin St
Free: Cathal Brugha St

Round 4 Wednesday 19 November 97
Mountjoy Sq v Aungier St
Kevin St v Cathal Brugha St
Free: Bolton St

Round 5 Wednesday 10 December 97
Cathal Brugha St v Mountjoy Sq
Bolton St v Kevin St
Free: Aungier St

Round 6 Knockout Stage (Semi Finals) Wednesday 21 January 1998

Round 7 Final: Wednesday 4 Feb

Terenure College RFC

Note

All the above fixtures are to be played on Wednesday of the Week stated above, in Terenure College RFC. The Home Team is the College which is printed first for each fixture.

Martin Searson

Sideline View

The Guinness-Ireland Hurling Championship. The Bank of Ireland Football Championship. Wimbledon. The FIFA U-20 Soccer World Cup. Golf. Formula 1. Rugby.

What a summer for the armchair supporter. Sport in abundance on the 'box' and typically Irish weather to make sure you stayed in-doors. Autumn has arrived and with it the return to college. Freshers' Week comes along with the customary Clubs and Societies Day. You are harassed and cajoled to join this, join that, play one sport or another. Soon enough you have writer's cramp after enrolling in so many clubs that you will be playing a different sport every day from now until you graduate!

However, you find yourself with a problem. You are too small to play basketball. Too slow for football. No skill for hurling. Let's face it — you're best chance of playing at Croke Park is to take up music and join the Artane Boys' Band!

Sweat rolls down your forehead. You wonder what to do. Lecturers are telling you to join a team, play a sport; get out and meet people and make new friends; get fresh air and travel to new places. Winning isn't everything, it's the taking part that counts. Well, taking part can be done in different ways. Not everybody has sporting ability, so why don't you get up out of your armchair and support a college team. Whether it be the English Premiership or the local bowls club, all sports people appreciate support. It lends encouragement and spurs people on to greater goals.

No matter what the sport, travel and socialising are all part of the package. Your support for DIT and college teams will be worth an extra point or goal to a team. At the same time you become part of the occasion, meet new friends and discover some of the qualities that make college life so great.

Keep an eye on the sports noticeboard or talk to the Sports Officer about up-coming games. DIT has 25,000 students. That's a lot of noise on the sidelines, so let's hear you!!

Yours in sport,
Bob Coghlan.

Get on up that hill ya boy ya

So you're young, alive with energy and have visions of living life to its fullest — then joining the mountaineering club could be the best step you'll ever take.

So what does mountaineering have to offer me?

Well, mountaineering covers a wide and diverse group of inter-related activities including outdoor rock-climbing, indoor wall-climbing, bouldering, building, ice-climbing, bridge-traversing, and sledging to name but a few. Basically, if it can be physically thought of it can be done!

Some of the many reasons to join include:

Fun

Above all else climbing is fun. The kind of 'giddy' fun you got as a kid from messing about in trees or the kick from leering over a cliff top despite being told to come back. And why should such instinctive pleasures be denied to us simply because we're a little older.

The Great Outdoors

If you've never been there you'll never truly appreciate what you're missing. There's a certain purity about the outdoors. The wild and open places where you can enjoy the power and beauty of nature — a sanctuary away from the stresses and strains of life. They can be places to rekindle your soul and revitalise your spirit.

Climbing is an exciting means to explore and enjoy the natural world.



Through a mountaineering club you will be given the opportunity to explore and experience parts of Ireland you might never have thought existed — places inaccessible but for the enthusiastic few.

Previous college funded trips have been to the Burren (Co. Clare), Glendalough, Lugnaquilla (Co. Wicklow), The Mourne and Muckross Head (Donegal) to name but a few.

And why stop with Ireland. Previous Club Members have also gone further afield to such places as the Grand Canyon, Yosemite (California), White Mountains, the Alps, Fountainsbleau and Iceland.

Friendship

Mountaineering is for a large part a collaborative sport. It involves trusting and relying on others and them relying on you. By sharing in adventure with others long lasting relationships and memories form that will remain with you for the rest of your life.

Learn new skills

Mountaineering, it must be remembered, is an adventure sport. It involves practical rope skills; knot tying, rope handling, belaying, and rappelling, but also a whole variety of skills that are essential to mountaineering. These skills will develop naturally as you become a more experienced member through the years. The ability to put one's own life ultimately in one's own hands is a very power-enriching skill that can only be

gained by cautious experience. It can also change your entire perspective on life. But this is something not to be taken lightly and no-one is ever asked to do anything they don't want to.

Joining the mountaineering club is the best way to allow these skills to develop in a safe, natural and friendly environment from other experienced members. And, of course, with slight exaggeration and creative thinking your experiences can be used in an interview to highlight your special skills to a prospective employer...

Mountaineering itself is only part of a wide and diverse climbing scene. There's always something going on and something to really get into. From national Bouldering competitions to chilling out on a precarious ledge. But unlike many other things in life, and with a little persistence, you will get a lot more out of it than what you put into it. Joining any DIT Mountaineering Club will bring to life the basics and hopefully instil a sense of joy for the outdoors to its members that will remain with them and allow them to pursue whatever their chosen dreams are...

So what're you waiting for?!!
Join Today!

Eoin O'Sullivan,
Kevin St Mountaineering
Club,
Tues. / Thurs. Gym 6:30

Last Man Standing **Pádraig Kelly,** **Offaly Senior** **Football Team** **Goalkeeper, tells** *the DIT Examiner* **what its like at the** **top level.**



Pádraig Kelly is in his third year of a four year degree in Marketing & Administration in Mountjoy Square. Between lectures he manages to keep his spot as keeper for the county team.

When did you first get involved with the GAA?

"This is my fourth year. I was called into the senior panel when I was eighteen. I was playing before that; under-twelves, under-fourteens, Minor, under-twenty ones, and then gradually I progressed from the Offaly Minor team to the under-twenty one team. Did a bit in school, but not much. I was recognised from an early age because I had a big kick, that's kind of my trade mark now.

Were you always a keeper?

"No, no. I only started keeping when I was about seventeen. I was put into goals, and it just progressed from there."

Was your family traditionally involved in Offaly GAA?

"Yeah, they would have been. They always encouraged me to do anything I liked, you know, soccer, GAA, rugby — it didn't matter. My brother played in goals as well. He's in UCD at the moment, he's a soccer 'keeper there. He started doing goals, and he started doing well, and I just, sort of, followed him

You're happy to have found your

niche as a goalkeeper?

"Oh, definitely, yeah. Because I was going nowhere — I was only going to be a club player outfield."

You were called up for the senior team when you were eighteen?

"Yeah. I played for the Minors when I was seventeen, played for the '21s when I was 18, 19 and 20 — I played for three years. And in my second year for the twenty-ones I was called into the senior panel."

So you were playing for the under-twenty ones and the Senior panel at the same time?

"Yeah, that's right, yeah, for two years."

Busy man, yeah?

"Ah, yeah, kept going."

Who are your local heroes?

"Well, I suppose Matt Connor is an obvious hero, Martin Furlong. For myself I'd say Martin Furlong; he's achieved everything that could be achieved."

Has the work-load slackened off now that you only have one team to worry about?

"I'm only playing for the Seniors now, and its a big pressure off me alright. Last year was a big effort for the Senior alone, but I remember the year before, I was training Tuesday and Thursday, then you'd have training on

Friday for the 21s, then you'd be playing on Saturday with the 21s and Sunday with the Seniors. You mightn't get a game with the Seniors but you'd still have to go. So that's five days in the week are gone."

Apart, then, from being physically hammered how did you fit everything else in?

"Well the studies suffered. Social life was very limited. With COMAD (Mountjoy Square), Wednesday night in the Big Tree was always the big night, and I'd have training on Tuesday and Thursday, so I'd go out on Wednesday night. I wouldn't be drinking, but I'd go out and come half-eleven just go home. And that would be it for the week maybe. If you had a game on the Sunday, if you had a few beers after that you'd have them, but other than that, just one night."

And would that have been rigorously enforced by the county?

"Oh yeah, big time."

What about playing for the DIT?

"I'd say I enjoyed that even more than a lot of county games because you could go out for the [DIT] games and you were a lot more relaxed. Ultimately you'd end up playing better, there was no pressure on you."

Having experienced two years of top-level pressure, what was the Offaly

build-up to the All-Ireland Championships the past year like in terms of pressure?

"It just kind of grew and grew. I think at the start of the year there was very little pressure, but then the regime was stepped up, fitness was stepped up and we started to get results. There was still no pressure, but we said to ourselves 'Something could be happening here!' There was pressure amongst the team to perform but we were getting results and doing well, and come the semi-final against Louth and from then on there was a lot of responsibility. For us it was totally new, it had been fifteen years since we'd reached the semi-final, we didn't know the right way to handle pressure. Everything from a little kid coming up to you and saying 'Hello' to going to a bar or a restaurant and someone notices you and wants to have a word with you. And you can't be cocky or people will say you're big-headed. Everybody wants a piece of you, and you have to look after them too."

What was the toughest game on your nerves?

"I don't normally get nervous for matches, to be honest. Its hard to say. I suppose the Mayo game, because, just personally, early on I didn't get my game going, and a few kick-outs went bad and it just meant extra-concentration to get it going again."

Are you back in training soon?

"We're back training a week now. We had four or five weeks of a holiday, and a lot of us just went berserk. So we're back training now, it wouldn't be as hard as last year, but our fitness level last year and this year are two different things. It just needs fine-tuning now. We'll kind of coast until Christmas and then from Christmas on there'll be a weights programme introduced, everyone getting stronger, getting fitter. It'll be very intense."

So what's the deal for the future?

"I want to get my degree as soon as I can, and while football is going well, and that can benefit you in some ways. Because when you're in the limelight and you're going for a job, it helps a lot. I just have to keep it going."

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SONIC BIONIC

ALBUMS

The Verve, Urban Hymns

When England's Verve issued *A Storm in Heaven* back in 1993, the band spewed a slow, uneasy style that sounded like the soundtrack to a hazy heroin trip. But like the car accident on the side of the road that grabs your attention, the Verve's flawless post grunge manner and skilled musicianship demanded attention while only hinting at even greater possibilities. On the band's follow ups, *No Come Down* and *A Northern Soul*, the quartet further fine-tuned its style and bathed its songs with even more elements of the emotional spectrum (pain, joy, despair), rolling them into an intoxicating musical ball. Now, after an 18-month breakup, the Verve makes a triumphant return with *Urban Hymns*, a clear candidate for album of the year. Every note on this 13-song affair is many times better than Beatles-wannabes Oasis, which incidentally once upon a time opened for the Verve; it's the group's payoff for years of searching for its essence. The ubiquitous, simply impeccable first single *Bitter Sweet Symphony*, opens the album with a marching, Stones-like string section that's propelled by Richard Ashcroft's urgent vocals. Though it's the edgier tracks that work so well, *The Drugs Don't Work* is a classic. Ashcroft once predicted, "I'm gonna die alone in bed." Let's hope this doesn't happen for a very long time. At 13 tracks, and over an hour long, this is a rich, heady cocktail indeed. c.e.5/10

Contributions to Sonic Bionic regarding anything musical welcome. On disk or not at all please.

GIGS

Redbox Saturday 27 September

FatBoy Slim
Psychonauts
Johnny Moy

Psychonauts, on four decks and a sampler / sequencer, really got things going with a very funky set, the highlight of which had to be fellow Mo'Waxer, DJ Shadow's *Organ Donor*.

Next up was Norman Cook — a.k.a. FatBoy Slim — playing an amazing selection of styles for over two exhaustive hours, including a booty shakin' latin set. He also worked in *Song for Lindy* and *Everybody needs a 303* from his album *Better Living Through Chemistry* (Skint).

A surprising finish with *Even Better*

Than the Real Thing (perhaps feeling he had to play something for the natives) left both crowd and DJ wanting more. Unfortunately the Redbox people had had enough. Despite this, I think everyone left feeling more than happy having witnessed such an outstanding performance (except for one of my friends who is owed £2.40 from the bar).

Mean Fiddler Thur 9 Oct Catatonia

The contrast of vocalist Cerys Matthews' voice and the indie-sunk guitar sound is, perhaps, the most striking aspect of Catatonia's presentation. Their set was lazy-paced more than up-beat, but lacked some punch beyond that which Matthews' voice could deliver. The crowd held back for most of the gig, the invisible people taking up at least the first two rows. Undeterred, Catatonia displayed a self-confidence that disregarded such short-comings.

During a set that — thankfully — had more to do with music than with mincing and moshing, Catatonia rolled out their chosen tunes with an extreme degree of professionalism. *Dream On* and *You've Got a Lot to Answer For* (their current single) both sounded very good, particularly the former, where they do their damndest to find that lost chord. The sixth number they played recalled the Meat Puppets' *Plateau*, though without the roughness of the Seattle band's song.

Matthews' stage persona, whether real or affected, is definitely Catatonia's strongest asset in a live context. Obviously coming from the Beth Gibbons of Portishead School of Song, where lesson one is Drink as much as is possible and smoke as many fags as you can for this will lend majesty to your voice, Cerys Matthews slugged away at what appeared, from a distance, to be a bottle of Thunderbird, though I could be mistaken, and enveloped herself in clouds of tobacco smoke. This helped create a boozy, loungy atmosphere directly around the vocalist, but it dispersed almost immediately upon coming into contact with the rest of the band, whose Ben Sherman-and-slacks outfits (one and all) appeared immune to the rock'n'roll haze, and just looked as though they were "just doing their job".

Because the members of Catatonia have all played in bands for years before they came together in their present incarnation, some critics have levelled accusations at them of being wrinkly old

puffins, possibly with the exception of vocalist, Matthews. So maybe they're a little on the over-21 side of things but one could easily argue that that gives them a more mature outlook on a genre that, until now, has been monopolised for too long by younger generations bordering on infants. It shouldn't matter to the music anyhow.

I came to see whether Catatonia would carry me off into a narcotic paradise or send me off to sleep. Devoid of much atmosphere on the night, the usually close-fitting Mean Fiddler managed to look five times its size. I didn't fall asleep, but Catatonia failed to impress greatly. Maybe it was the night, maybe they deserve more praise as a studio band, but they just didn't cut it. Try as I might, however, I just couldn't swallow the fact that Catatonia appeared to be nothing more than very professional musicians producing elaborate cabaret. ChaOS

Mean Fiddler Thur 16 Oct dEUS / The Frames dc

This was the first time I had seen The Frames play live, and short of hearing Revenant a number of times on the radio, knew not what to expect of them. They were in particularly good fettle this night, no doubt having a lot to do with the fact that they are big dEUS fans; lead vocalist Glen Hansard could not contain his joy that they were finally to play in this country, as he shouted 'This band rule!' by way of introduction to his own set. He got over that and both he and the rest of Frames dc got on with it. Very well, I might add, for their line-up includes (not dissimilar to dEUS) a violinist who aint afeared of lettin' loose. The Irish lads put on a very genuine performance and one which highlighted the power and emotion of Hansard's voice, though it is possible

CLUBBED TO A BLOODY PULP

Influx

@ Redbox

Fri 31 Oct: Darren Emerson
Matthew B
Aqua Bassino & Billy Scurry

Sat 8 Nov: David Holmes
Dave Clarke
Billy Scurry

Sat 15 Nov: Justin Robertson
Orde Meikle
Johnny Moy

Fri 21 Nov: Ultimate Base
Carl Cox
Luke Slater
Billy Scurry
(Dublin/Belfast same nite)

Sat 22 Nov: DJ Shadow
Propellerheads
Johnny Moy

Thursdays @ Kitchen

Oct 30 Richard West (Mr C - End/Shamen)
Johnny Moy

Nov 6 Jerry Dammers (The Specials)
Johnny Moy

Nov 13 Midfield General (Skint)
Glen Brady (Influx)

Nov 20 Athletico DJs

Nov 27 Andrew Weatherall (Two Lone
Swordsmen)
Johnny Moy

Competition

Influx are offering 2 double tickets to see Darren Emerson to the 1st two correct entries. All's you gotta do is answer this Q.

Q. Which recent Scottish film soundtrack did Mr Emerson and his band recently play on?

Answers on an old mule to:
The Editor,
the DIT Examiner,
DITSU Kevin St,
Kevin St,
Dublin 8.

Ph: 402 4636

conversational cHAos -- the SONIC BIONIC interview

that, like the majority of the crowd, they were preoccupied by what was to follow.

So convincing was the opening Suds & Soda that I'm now quite prepared to agree with dEUS that the above-mentioned products do in fact, "mix okay with beer, sometimes...". Third up was the supreme pop artefact, Opening Night, followed without much ado by A Shocking Lack Thereof, which sounds like a music box that instead of a pirrhouting ballerina has a ballerina on a set of decks inside. It served as yet another example of the Quirky-FaithNoMore-like quality of this international (a Scotsman, a German, and three Belgians) band.

Little Arithmetics deviated little from the recorded version, though it was played with a rawer edge. After an astonishing seventh number which I failed to recognise came Guilty Pleasures and then, another gem, another VU anthem, Serpentine. They played it to at least its full seven minutes plus, and restored my faith in the influence of music. But who cares about my faith? Gimme the Heat, the big hitter of In a Bar, Under the Sea, came next and for at least three minutes I forgot where I was. They came as close to creating the enchanting Velvet Underground jangly guitar loop with Gimme the Heat as I think I'll ever hear. Roses rocked the place from the foundations on a slow, chugging swing. At this stage the audience was as completely lost in the music as could be. They encored with Theme from Turnpike, and, telling everyone they were on the guest list for the Saturday show, dEUS left the stage.

ChaOS

Whelan's Sat 18 Oct

Giant Sand / OP8 / Lisa Germano

Does this line-up sound confusing to you? Well, if you were at the gig, it wouldn't, and if you weren't, you should have been. The band / fluctuating collective from Tucson, Arizona are undoubtedly one of the most original and musically fluid outfits I have ever heard. Giant Sand have been around since the early eighties, and Lisa Germano (used to play with John Cougar Mellencamp way back when) who has joined them for the current album Slush, brings a lift and a clarity to the music somehow managing to improve on perfection. The gig had the atmosphere of an informal or impromptu session, enhanced by the band's apparent ignorance of their own genius. And another thing — the King is alive...he was wearing a red shiny jacket on Whelan's stage that night.

IOS

CD Competitions

the DIT Examiner, in association with PolyGram Ireland, is proud to announce it is giving away five copies of the latest album release from The Lighthouse Family, Postcards from Heaven, and five copies of the soundtrack to A Life Less Ordinary. Simply answer the relevant questions.

For Lighthouse Family competition:

What is the first single to be released from this record?

For A Life Less Ordinary competition:

Who directed the film A Life Less Ordinary?

Answers in writing, stating clearly which competition you are entering, to The Editor, the DIT Examiner, c/o Students' Union, DIT Kevin St. Closing Date: Fri 14 November 97

dEUS

dEUS are Julle de Borger, drums/vocals; Klaas Janzoon, violin/vocals; Tom Barman, vocals/guitar; Danny Mommens, bass/vocals; Craig Ward, guitar/vocals. Following their debut album, Worst Case Scenario, a mini-album, My Sister is My Clock, and an EP, Theme from Turnpike, they have again come up with a 'proper'-length album, this one entitled In a Bar, Under the Sea. Despite connotations of Homer Simpson's no.1 dream ('there'll be no allegations, just friendly crustaceans...'), it is far more dimensional than the aforementioned Springfielder.



if the gods like rock'n'roll here's who they listen to most of the time: l-r: Julle, Klaas, Danny, Craig and Tom.

I meet Tom Barman, dEUS's lead vocalist, in the bar of the Jury's Inn at the Customs House Docks. The rest of the band sit quietly behind us waiting. I suspect, for me to get it over with so they can go and soundcheck. It's four in the afternoon and I'm already half an hour late. In case that isn't enough, Tom's back is in pain, and back pain can infuriate saints. For some unearthly reason, Tom isn't even a bit pissed off. He sips tomato juice and smokes a cigarette.

Following the first album, Worst Case Scenario, there were some problems for the band regarding personnel who had other interests. Rudy left first, followed by Stef. Is there a constant flux in the band — one that creates a constructive conflict?

"Well, DE-structive in that case. The musical disagreements are still there, but personally it goes much better which is very good if you tour as much as we do. I mean, I don't have the same taste as, Craig, say, not by a million miles — we have fights over that every day. But personally, we get along. And there was a stage where Stef was bringing everybody else down, and that's something that I don't want to live through anymore."

In a Bar, Under the Sea — is it an introspective thing? Under the sea, where no-one will find you?

"No. It's just a line from the song [*Disappointed in the Sun*]. It's a beautiful line. A bar is something that everybody knows, but it's under the sea so it's got something alienated about it."

You are clearly influenced by an extremely broad range of musical styles and personalities, many of which are American, and a lot of that comes out on *In a Bar, Under the Sea*. Do you still listen to a lot of American music?

"One of the great things I've discovered this last couple of years is The Palace Brothers, Will Alden. He's absolutely the best; he's been name-dropped by Nick Cave, and he's very much, I've learned, a musicians' musician. Not because he makes difficult music but because, I dunno, he's not very well known and he seems to sabotage his own career the whole time."

Would you say you're a musicians' musician?

"No, I even take that back, because that's horrible to say about someone. But most people who knew him were musicians, that's why I'm saying it. But he's great. He's Leonard Cohen for the nineties, definitely. His lyrics are unbeatable."

Memories of a Festival — do you have many memories of festivals, or was this just one that got away?

"No. That's one song that I don't think we've played twice. It's one of those things we put on the record because it was so easy-going, and because it was a sort of a break from the heavy songs before it on the album; Gimme the Heat, A Shocking Lack Thereof, Serpentine. But it's something that I wrote in about two minutes and thirty-five seconds — that's about the time that it takes to play it. It's about Glastonbury, but it's really just one of the light-hearted ones."

Do festivals appeal to you or do you prefer the closeness of clubs?

"Oh, I think all the band prefers clubs to festivals. They do appeal to me, the festivals, because you meet other bands, you can see other bands, and because when the sun is shining you can get a really nice tan when you're on tour. But we always choose to play in tents, even in countries where we can afford to be on the big stage, we always ask 'Do you have a tent? Can we not play in the tent?' To have the close environment."

Is there anything that annoys you in a crowd when you're playing a gig?

"Talking, yeah. Especially with the soft songs, I can't stand it. And if I'm at a gig and I want to talk, I just don't do it."

Have you ever walked off during your own set because you were annoyed?

"I have, right after [a gig]. Not very long ago in the Viper Room in LA. We did three gigs there, two were really good and the last one, I don't know, touringitis, I guess, I just couldn't take it. So I went off the stage directly, but, I mean, it was after the gig, but I didn't hang around."

Did you find the American audiences were respectful?

"Very, yeah very much so. But it doesn't really reflect in sales" he smiles ruefully.

The Velvet Underground never made it commercially...

"No, no, neither did [Captain] Beefheart. But I think we are a bit more accessible than Beefheart and the Velvet Underground."

With gigs in Dublin, on the Thursday and the Saturday, and Belfast, on the Friday in between, the final dates are set for a dEUS tour that kicked off in October 1996. It's their first time in Ireland.

I ask him whether he plans to do anything in particular while he's here.

"See a doctor. My back is killing me."

And there it is. His back is killing him and he's off to soundcheck, preparatory to launching a gig at us later in the evening. I'm just wondering whether we'll be experiencing small quantities of divine intervention.

See Gigs on page 16 for live review.

Reddit?

Before the Dawn

by Gerry Adams

REVIEWED BY BOB COGHAN
PRESIDENT, DITSU CATHAL BRUGH
ST

Love him or hate him, even the most vehement of his opponents would begrudgingly admit that Gerry Adams is one of the most talented politicians to grace the political scene North or South of the border. From humble beginnings in Divismore Park in the Ballymurphy estate, West Belfast, through to his current role as President of Sinn Féin, *Before the Dawn* is an interesting, if perhaps slanted, autobiographical view of events which have shaped the history of Ireland over the past 40 years.

In the foreword, certain messages come across which are repeated throughout the book. The ongoing

search for peace and the need for forgiveness, as well as an unfortunate acceptance of violence as a way of life, are the principle notes around which much of his writings centre. The author admits to the selectivity of the events in the book and points out the omission of certain events lest they risk undermining the search for peace.

The reader is led through Adams' early childhood from the cramped family home where he often shared a bed with two or three brothers, through to the latter days of his youth and the search for female conquests. Inevitably, Adams gets drawn into the world of Republicanism whether through family influences (both his father and his grandfather had served time in prison for Republican offences) or because it seemed to be the only route for Catholic youths in West Belfast where unemployment was the norm for the Nationalist population.

Adams leads us through the events of the Troubles as he experienced them — the Bogside riots, internment, Bloody

Sunday, the hunger strikes. He details clashes between the Nationalist population and the combined enemy of the loyalists and the British Army. Several accounts are given in most gleeful detail of alleged Army and police brutality while in captivity. IRA shootings and bombings are described in a matter of fact way, as if they were an acceptable part of life and wholly justified as a process of retaliation against the establishment and all those who held ideals different to those of the bombers.

Before the Dawn is also a book of many emotions — sorrow being by far the main feeling. The loss of many close childhood friends and family members, and the grief of the families of countless victims of shootings as well as the hunger strikes. The reader also gets a sense of great anger and frustration at the treatment of the Nationalist community and, perhaps, at the futility of the whole situation.

Overall, anyone with an interest in Irish history will find this book



Sinn Féin President, Gerry Adams

enthraling and well worth reading. Although the book lacks any obvious propaganda, a certain angle on events is apparent but not overwhelming. My advice is to put all prejudices aside and enjoy the book.

THE IRISH TIMES

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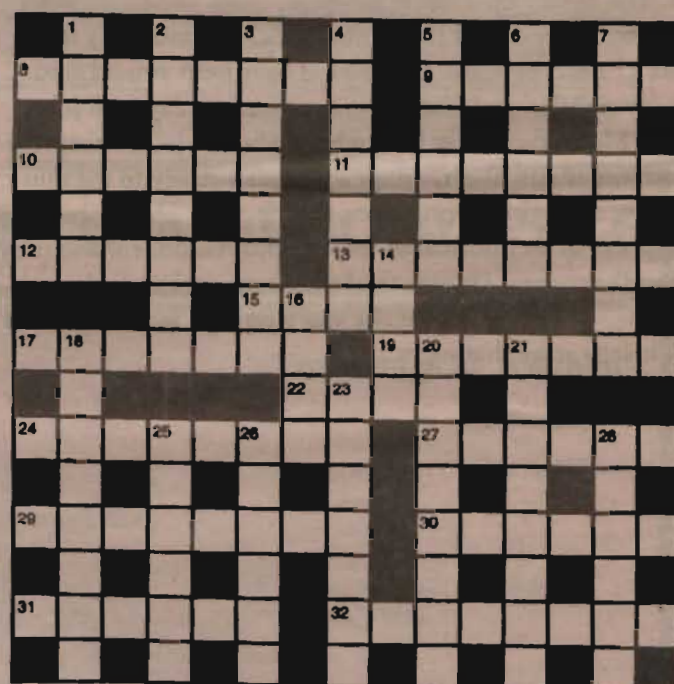
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ACROSS

- 8 Broad-brimmed Spanish hat (8)
- 9 Rode up and made the liquid flow (6)
- 10 Have enough money to buy (6)
- 11 Could an Oriental or a Tirolean be a member? (8)
- 12 Thin strip or slice (6)
- 13 Extremely large, immense (8)
- 15 Manner of doing or a fashion (4)
- 17 Wet slightly (7)
- 19 Likenesses carved in stone (7)
- 22 The abominable snowman (4)
- 24 Information displayed in words on television (8)
- 27 Sleep-like state (6)
- 29 A break in a journey (8)
- 30 Hollow between hills (6)
- 31 Hair falling over brow (6)
- 32 Insects' feelers or aerials (8)

DOWN

- 1 Wretched, afflicted, miserable. (6)
- 2 Pardons, frees one from blame (8)
- 3 French policeman (8)
- 4 Cor! cede that one is compelled (7)
- 5 Greek sun-god (6)
- 6 What is usually done or regular trade (6)
- 7 Determined, mind made up (8)
- 14 Structure prepared for egg-laying (4)
- 16 Marble-like agate (4)
- 18 Prelude to an opera or concert (8)
- 20 Smarten up, improve appearance (8)
- 21 Tracking (8)
- 23 Everlasting, without beginning or end (7)
- 25 Spend, lay out (6)
- 26 Grudged, felt jealousy (6)
- 28 Julius, Roman Emperor (6)

COMPETITION NO. 1



A Life Less Ordinary

Director: Danny Boyle
Starring: Ewan McGregor,
Cameron Diaz, Holly Hunter,
Delroy Lindo.



Robert and Celine having great gas at a gas station

A lightweight, feelgood, and very obvious tale unfolds here in this by-the-book romantic comedy that looks — for the opening twenty minutes or so, during which the superb soundtrack doesn't let up for a second — like a very stylish, big-budget pop video. Virtually guaranteed to be the next True Romance, this is a boy-kidnap-girl, girl-hates-boy, boy-and-girl-eventually-fall-in-love number from the Shallow Grave / Trainspotting etc team.

Ewan McGregor (Robert) and Cameron Diaz (Celine) are the unlikely couple thrown forcibly together by fate, in the guise of two of God's cops; a delightful-as-ever Hunter, playing angel O'Reilly, and her partner Jackson (Lindo). Robert is a recently-fired janitor in a big firm whose girlfriend dumps him for an aerobics instructor. Celine is the daughter, coincidentally, of Robert's boss, Mr. Naville, played by Ian Holm. She happens to be in daddy's office when Robert busts in demanding his job back, doesn't get it, and ends up kidnapping Celine, more because it seems like a good idea at the time rather than because she might be suitable as a useful bargaining chip for getting his job back. And guess what? Sorry, no prizes for guessing this one, but if there was a summer coming up this would probably be its blockbuster.

Judging by past years' experience, we're due a winter before our next summer, so it may just turn out to be a very popular feature among all the hyped-out Christmas movies. Guaranteed to please, with *A Life Less Ordinary* you gets what you pays for.

6/10

Nil By Mouth

Director: Gary Oldman
Starring: Ray Winstone, Kathy Burke, Charlie Creed-Miles.

Nil By Mouth is a very sobering look at the lifestyle of alcohol and drug abuse among the main character, Raymond's, family, friends and

plot-shape — it gave the feeling that Oldman was not sure what was required of the story, that it wandered aimlessly. This, though it took some time to make itself apparent, was not the case. The camera work deliberately aimed to discomfort and thus add to the unsettling aspect of the story very effectively. Weatherwise, there was plenty of rain and overcast skies, and with the concrete backdrop of the flats complex in which the family and friends lived, it made for a very seedy, depressing and hopeless atmosphere. You should go and see this film, but don't be surprised to be put off your popcorn.

8/10

I Went Down

Director: Paddy Breathnach
Starring: Brendan Gleeson, Peter McDonald, Peter Caffrey.



Bunny Kelly -- our man in the Ford Cortina. Watch out Vincent Vega.

This film is referred to in the press blurb as being 'darkly humorous'. For a term that is used with such wanton abandon very often, it luckily happens to be true in this case. It's a comedy of bungling criminals trying to keep their heads above water.

I Went Down is about Git Hynes (McDonald), recently released from prison, with bugger-all in store for him, and Bunny Kelly (Gleeson), a dumb-as-a-plate-of-beans-God-Bless-Him type, whose insignificant, low-life, henchman status is the source of much of the comic narrative featured here.

Following an episode where Git beats seven kinds of shite out of two cronies of the local Big Cheese, Tom French (Tony Doyle), our two heroes are dispatched forthwith to collect a former associate of French's down in Cork, who split with some of French's money a while before. Once there, they seek their quarry in a 'local' pub; the Black and Amber pub at

Islandbridge in Dublin is unskillfully disguised as being in Cork — though this doesn't really matter — and Git gets his nose broken for asking too many questions.

The plot a-thickens and much jolly japes ensue as Bunny and Git try to locate and finally capture French's former buddy, Frank Grogan, played nice and slimily by Peter Caffrey.

This they eventually succeed in doing, Git with the aid of a fantastic faceless balaclava, because Bunny could only get his hands on one proper mask. Bit by bit, they discover that there is more to the Grogan in their custody and his connection to their boss than their boss led them to believe.

Trying desperately not to get involved, Bunny attempts to convince Git of the importance of the need-to-know principle, and that they definitely do NOT need to know anything about Grogan, the risk of reprisal from French being too great. Meanwhile, Grogan makes every attempt to bend the two lads' ears to his own cause, namely, surviving the wrath of *la Grand Fromage*, Tom French.

More violence, laughs and even a nothing-to-do-with-the-plot bit of shagging takes place. In order to find out what happens you're going to have to go and see it. Some of the characters fail to develop fully but good performances by Gleeson and

Caffrey make it a fantastic watch. It can only be a good thing if it makes writer Conor McPherson hone his movie-script skills.

7/10

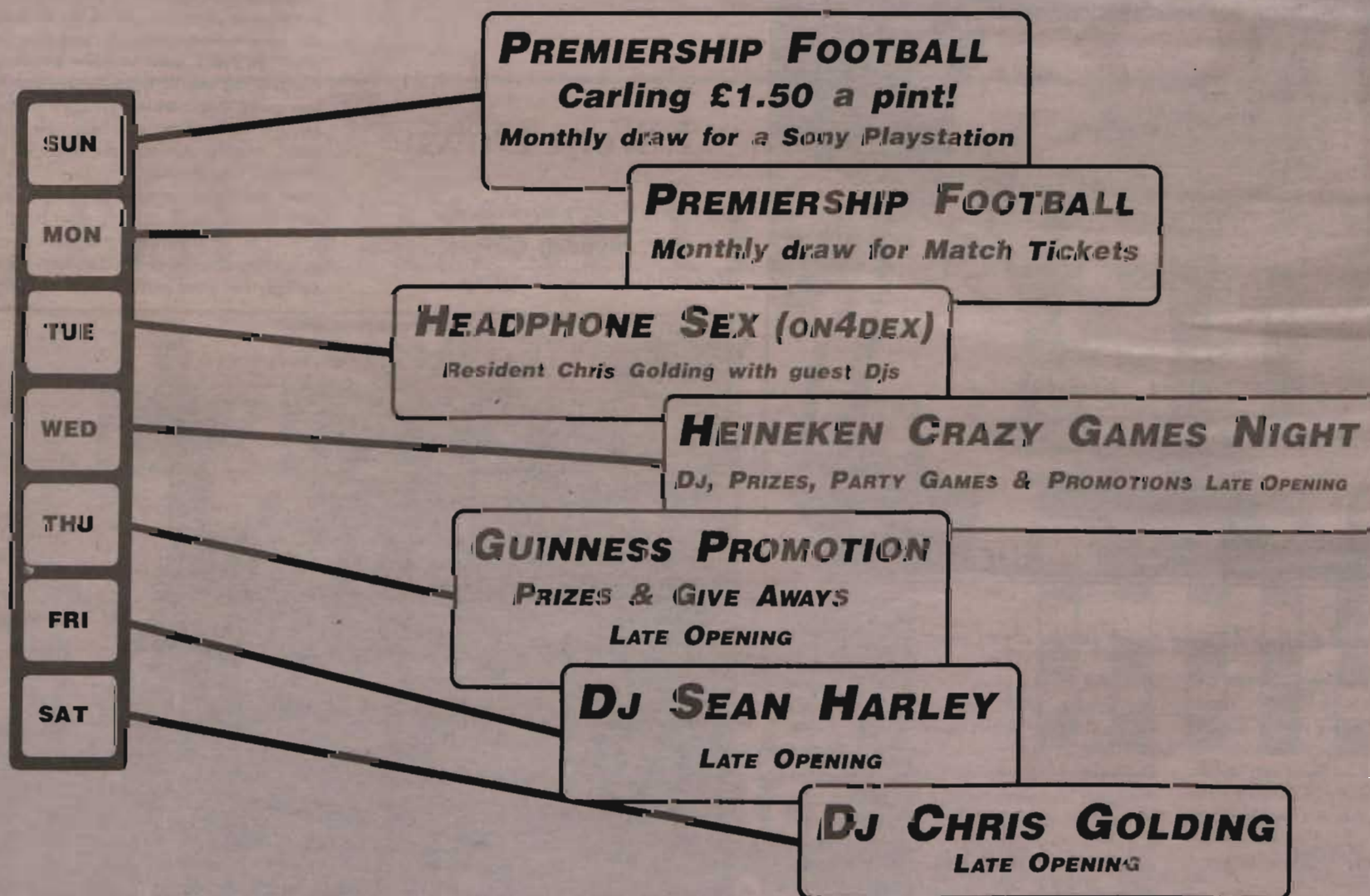
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